

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

The inventive absorbent material is produced by air-laying textile fibres on a wire 5 to form a non-woven gauze 6 with an air-doffing apparatus 1, e.g., with the aid of a Fehrer K21 card 9. The non-woven gauze, which becomes anchored to the wire in the air-laying process, then passes at least one cellulose pulp air-laying apparatus, such as a Kröyer head 2 or the like, whereby a mat of flash-dried cellulose fibres is formed on the textile fibre non-woven gauze. Suction boxes 8 are disposed beneath the wire 5 opposite the card 1-9 and the Kröyer head or Kröyer heads 2. The two-layer material is removed from the wire 5 and passes through a calendar 3, whereafter the material is rolled-up as finished material 4.